



2024 ANNUAL REPORT

AFRICABRIDGE.ORG



AFRICA BRIDGE, YEAR IN REVIEW

This was a year for Africa Bridge to continue the mission of empowering rural African communities to attain prosperity through a comprehensive 5-year program focused on children and youth. Our long-term strategy is to transition the organization from implementors to facilitators of the Africa Bridge Model with and by implementing partners. We did locate a wildlife organization that we began exploring a partnership with and look forward to other opportunities.

Kambasegela Ward graduated in December of 2024! The October Safari Trip visit included visits to the Lufingo, Kisondele and Kambasegela Wards.

Founder Barry Childs' book, *And the Children Shall Lead Us*, was published in April, 2024. Book launches took place in Dar, London, and Portland, Oregon. The book describes Barry's experiences growing up in Tanzania, and the additional adventures which led to the creation and success of Africa Bridge. The book will be an excellent way to spread our story.

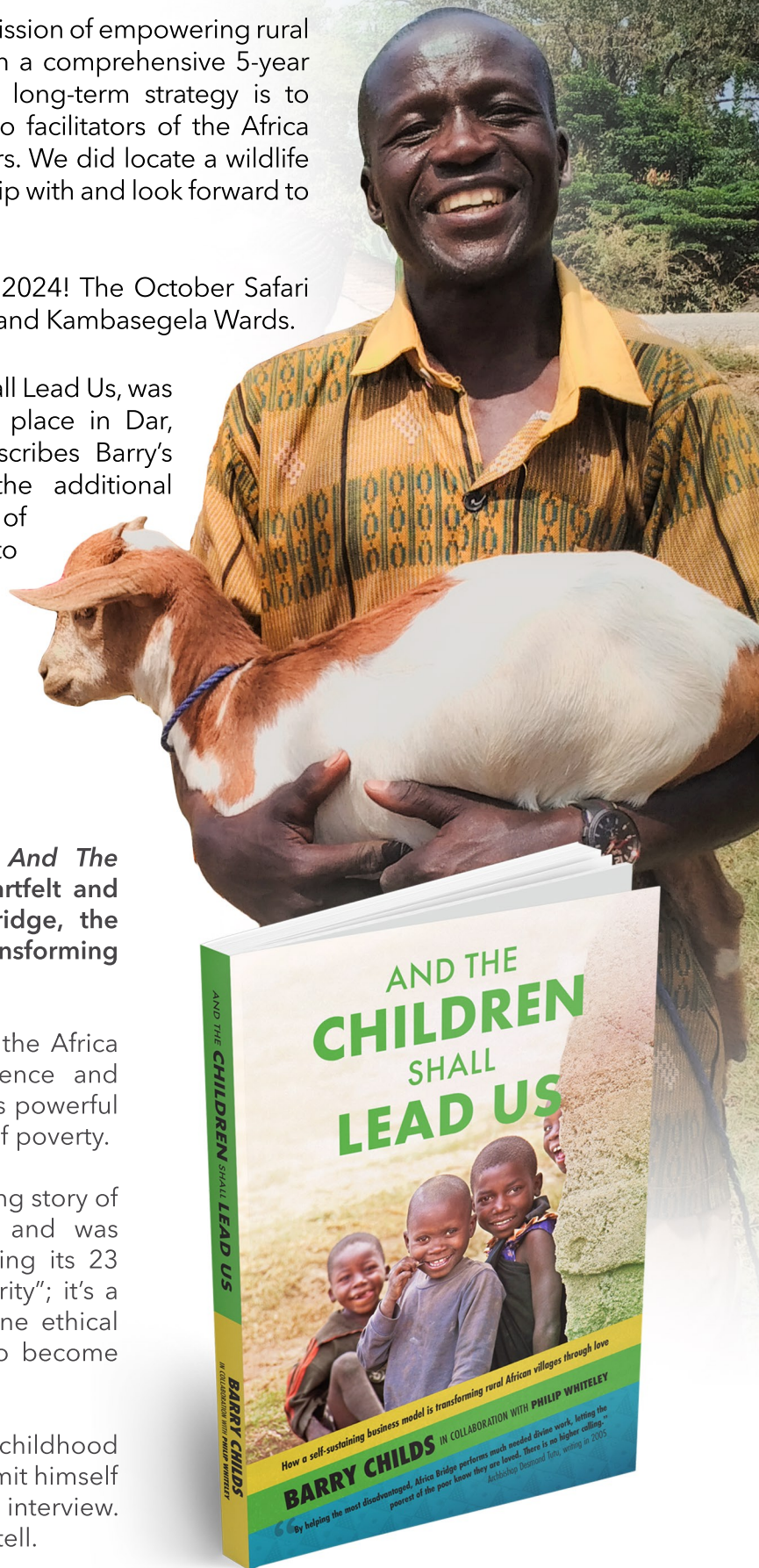
AND THE CHILDREN SHALL LEAD US

Africa Bridge announces the publication of *And The Children Shall Lead Us* by Barry Childs - a heartfelt and fascinating account of 23 years of Africa Bridge, the sustainable, cooperative agricultural model transforming rural villages.

This book is published to share the success of the Africa Bridge model - based on both field experience and academic research - and to raise awareness of its powerful potential to lift the most vulnerable children out of poverty.

And The Children Shall Lead Us tells the engrossing story of how the project works, how it came about and was implemented, and what has been learned during its 23 years of operation. This work is not simply "charity"; it's a proven community-led model that could redefine ethical development in Africa. The book is destined to become recommended reading for the social sciences.

Barry Childs, founder of Africa Bridge (who spent childhood years in Tanzania and returned later in life to commit himself to helping his homeland) is available for interview. Passionate about the project, Barry has stories to tell.



UNIQUE PROGRAM MODEL

Through our work this year we have refined and focused on the two parts of our unique model:



Most Vulnerable Children's Committees (MVCC)

Africa Bridge creates village MVCCs, which manage the co-op membership and identify the Most Vulnerable Children we will serve. Africa Bridge local staff train committee members in social services, life skills, and organizational management. This process builds local capacity and transfers skills directly to families.

MVCC members visit the children and their families regularly to provide psychosocial support and monitor their progress.

Education

Africa Bridge provides students with uniforms and supplies so they can attend school by making grants to the MVCCs.

Psychosocial and health support for children

The MVCC supports children's clubs which serve as gathering places and sources of education and support for children and their caregivers. Africa Bridge trains peer health educators to provide education on key health topics such as HIV/AIDS and reproductive health.



Income Generating Co-ops

Africa Bridge provides the seed capital to buy livestock and agricultural inputs, implements the operating procedures, and delivers ongoing training and business management.

Pass-On Model

A family caring for a Most Vulnerable Child receives a cow. The first calf is given to another family through the MVCC, doubling the number of cooperative members. This process continues to repeat, increasing members continually and creating many more families with higher incomes. Families owning a cow have milk and manure for their crops.

Graduation

After five years, the Ward graduates from Africa Bridge with the capacity to build future growth through our sustainable, regenerative process.



PARTNERS AND FUNDERS

PARTNERS

Cana's Feast Winery
Laura D. Wanser Foundation
Perkins Coie
Segal Family Foundation
Stafford Primary School
Ubon Safari

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Reola Phelps, Board Chair through June 2024
Barry Childs, Founder and Board Chair
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Baraka Mtunga
Lwitico Mwalukumba
Shelby Nelson
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Mark Whiteley, Secretary
John Worcester, ED and Secretary through June 2024
Ben Pettigrew, Board Chair Emeritus

STAFF

Sharon Brabenac, Marketing Director, Executive Director July 2024
Mary Charpentier, Bookkeeper
Robert Kibweja, TZ Driver
Ponsiano Lupoli, TZ Co-op Coordinator
Kelvin Ngonyani, TZ Most Vulnerable Children Coordinator



VOLUNTEER HOURS SPENT

Thirty-three volunteers contributed an amazing 2,502 hours for Africa Bridge in 2024. Thank you!

REVENUE

Donors	\$74,810
Grants	\$50,000
Total	\$124,810

EXPENSES

Program Services	\$92,660	68%
Management and General	\$26,617	19%
Marketing and Fundraising	\$17,630	13%
Total	\$136,907	100%



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